

for persons providing labor and materials for Federal construction projects.

H.R. 1442. An act to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to continue and extend authority for transfers to State and local governments of certain property for law enforcement, public safety, and emergency response purposes.

H.R. 2454. An act to assure the long-term conservation of mid-continent light geese and the biological diversity of the ecosystem upon which many North American migratory birds depend, by directing the Secretary of the Interior to implement rules to reduce the overabundant population of mid-continent light geese.

H.R. 2614. An act to amend the Small Business Investment Act to make improvements to the certified development company program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2615. An act to amend the Small Business Act to make improvements to the general business loan program, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2488) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to sections 105 and 211 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2000, and agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints the following members as managers of the conference on the part of the House:

For consideration of the House bill, and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. ARCHER, Mr. ARMEY, Mr. CRANE, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. STARK.

As additional conferees for consideration of sections 313, 315-16, 318, 325, 335, 338, 341-42, 344-45, 351, 362-63, 365, 369, 371, 381, 1261, 1305, and 1406 of the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. GOODLING, Mr. BOEHNER, and Mr. CLAY.

The message also announced that pursuant to the provisions of section 591(a)(2) of the Foreign Operation, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1999 (112 Stat. 2681-210) the Minority Leader appoints the following individuals to the National Commission on Terrorism: Ms. Juliette N. Kayyem of Cambridge, Massachusetts.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 4:05 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hanrahan, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 880. An act to amend the Clean Air Act to remove flammable fuels from the list of substances with respect to which reporting and other activities are required under the risk management plan program, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

At 6:20 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hanrahan, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House dis-

agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2587) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes and agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints the following members as managers of the conference on the part of the House:

Mr. ISTOOK, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. DIXON, Mr. MOLLOHAN, and Mr. OBEY.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1094. An act to amend the Federal Reserve Act to broaden the range of discount window loans which may be used as collateral for Federal reserve notes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1442. An act to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to continue and extend authority for transfers to State and local governments of certain property for law enforcement, public safety, and emergency response purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2454. An act to assure the long-term conservation of mid-continent light geese and the biological diversity of the ecosystem upon which many North American migratory birds depend, by directing the Secretary of the Interior to implement rules to reduce the overabundant population of mid-continent light geese; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 2614. An act to amend the Small Business Investment Act to make improvements to the certified development company program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

H.R. 2615. An act to amend the Small Business Act to make improvements to the general business loan program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read twice and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 211. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at West 920 Riverside Avenue in Spokane, Washington, as the "Thomas S. Foley Federal Building and United States Courthouse", and the plaza at the south entrance of such building and courthouse as the "Walter F. Horan Plaza".

H.R. 695. An act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to convey an administrative site in San Juan County, New Mexico, to San Juan College.

H.R. 747. An act to protect the permanent trust funds of the State of Arizona from erosion due to inflation and modify the basis on which distributions are made from those funds.

H.R. 1104. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to transfer administra-

tive jurisdiction over land within the boundaries of the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site to the Archivist of the United States for the construction of a visitor center.

H.R. 1152. An act to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to target assistance to support the economic and political independence of the countries of the South Caucasus and Central Asia.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment:

S. 1329. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land to Nye County, Nevada, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-133).

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 1330. A bill to give the city of Mesquite, Nevada, the right to purchase at fair market value certain parcels of public land in the city (Rept. No. 106-134).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. THOMPSON, for the Committee on Governmental Affairs: Earl E. Devaney, of Massachusetts, to be Inspector General, Department of the Interior.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. INOUE, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 1475. A bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to provide incentive grants to improve the quality of child care; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. INOUE, and Mr. AKAKA):

S. 1476. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide an increase in payments for physician services provided in health professional shortage areas in Alaska and Hawaii; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROBB:

S. 1477. A bill to reduce traffic congestion, promote economic development, and improve the quality of life in the metropolitan Washington region; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. INOUE):

S. 1478. A bill to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to provide equitable access for foster care and adoption services for Indian children in tribal areas; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GREGG (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BROWNBAC, Mr.

HAGEL, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. GORTON, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. MACK, and Mr. SESSIONS):

S. 1479. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to empower teachers, improve student achievement through high-quality professional development for teachers, reauthorize the Reading Excellence Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. INOUE, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 1475. A bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to provide incentive grants to improve the quality of child care; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

CHILD CARE QUALITY INCENTIVE ACT OF 1999

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise to talk about a crisis that is affecting the families of this country. That crisis is the child care system, the ability to obtain safe, affordable, high-quality child care.

Today there are an estimated 13 million children, 6 million of them infants and toddlers, who require some form of day care. For working families, the price of this day care is exceedingly difficult to meet each and every day.

Full-day child care ranges from \$4,000 to \$10,000 a year. For some low-income families, that represents 25 percent of their income.

This is a huge obligation. We have, I fear and believe, the responsibility to ensure that we can help these families meet this obligation to protect their children. Not only is this necessary simply for the custodial protection and care of children, it is necessary for their enhancement, their advancement, for their intellectual development.

We have discovered over the last several years, because of all the research that is being done at the National Institutes of Health, and other places, the crucial role of the early development of children in their ultimate intellectual and social development as adults.

We know if we have good, nurturing care in the early days of life, this care will lead to better cognitive performance later on. It will increase classroom success. It will lead to more fully developed individuals who can cope with the challenges of this next century that is just upon us.

So our investment in child care is not simply something that is altruistic—something we want to do because it is for the kids and for working families—it is in the best interests of this country in order to provide for the citizens of this country of the next century.

We know also, as we look around, that one of the problems in child care,

I say to Senators, is that because of the low reimbursement rates that the child care centers receive from the States, that they are not able to retain good employees and that they are not able to train the employees they can retain—particularly in this booming economy we see today.

So what you have in so many child care centers is a situation where they cannot retain their employees, they cannot attract the very best employees, they do not have the resources to fully develop the potential for these employees, and as a result, ultimately, children suffer.

In fact, there have been numerous studies. The one that I found most disturbing is one where four States were studied in the United States, and it was found that in those States only one out of seven child care centers provided care that promoted the healthy development of the child. Even more shocking, one in eight of these child care centers actually provided care that threatened the health of the child. We have to do something about it.

Prior to welfare reform, there was a law on the books that said the State, when they were subsidizing day care for low-income parents, had to at least try to achieve the 75th percentile in terms of their reimbursement rate. What that means is that they had to have a reimbursement rate that could at least meet the cost of 75 out of 100 of the centers in their particular State. That has gone by the wayside. But in order to keep quality in our child care system, we have to get to reimbursement rates that will, in fact, provide the resources for child care centers to have quality, enhancing care to benefit the children of this country.

What has also been abandoned in the last several years is even the attempt by the States to go ahead and do surveys of the market so they know what it costs different child care centers to provide care and know what it costs for the parents to send their children to day-care centers. Having abandoned these market surveys, essentially there is no connection between their subsidy rate and, in fact, the cost of day care. So working families who receive these subsidies—and there are more and more families who are receiving subsidies as we move welfare recipients to work—have no correlation between what they are getting and essentially what the cost of child care is in the real world.

What I have done, along with some of my colleagues, is introduce legislation that would, in fact, give the States an incentive, first to do their market surveys, to find out the cost of day care in their communities, and then to strive to meet those market rates.

I have been very pleased to be joined by Senators CHRIS DODD and TED KENNEDY, who are leaders in the field of improving child care in this country,

together with Senators FEINSTEIN, INOUE, and MURRAY in introducing the Child Care Quality Incentive Act. Essentially, this legislation would establish a new mandatory pool of funding, \$300 million each year over the next 5 years, as part of the Child Care Development Block Grant Program. This funding would be an incentive for States to first conduct a market survey and then to make significant movement towards raising their subsidy rates to that market rate. In so doing, we can directly contribute to the bottom line of these child care centers. They, in turn, can retain personnel, train their personnel, and create a more enhancing environment for the development of children. This, I think, is a goal we should have.

Increased reimbursement rates also expand the number of choices parents have in finding quality child care.

We will also, I hope, at the same time try to increase the overall scope of the child development block grants. One of the consequences of simply increasing funding for the child care development block grant, is many States will not increase the subsidy they pay for children; they will simply try to enroll more children. This puts centers in a very cruel dilemma because the more children they have at that far-below-market rate the greater the economic pressure on the centers.

The program I am presenting today with my colleagues would do what child care providers have argued must be done, and that is to give them additional resources so they can, in fact, improve the quality of day care—not simply the number of children in day care but the quality of day care. If we do these things we are going to be in a strong position to face the challenges ahead.

One of the greatest challenges for working families is the cost of day care for their children. I have been very pleased to note that this legislation has been endorsed by the USA Child Care, the Children's Defense Fund, Catholic Charities of the United States, the Child Welfare League of America, the YMCA of the United States, the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, the National Head Start Association, the National Child Care Association and a host of other agencies and organizations throughout the country. They recognize, as I do, and as my colleagues who are introducing this legislation do, that we can talk a lot about child care, we can emphasize how important it is to families, we can stress the importance to our economy and to our long-run future in this country, but until we put real resources to work, we will not be able to meet the real needs of families. These needs grow each day.

I urge strong support for this legislation. Again, I thank and commend my colleagues who have joined me in this